AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (*Currently Amended*) A connection ~~Connection~~ control module ~~(CCM1;CCM2)~~ of a switching node in a telecommunications network, said connection control module ~~(CCM1;CCM2)~~ being adapted to communicate to a service control module ~~(SC1a;SC2a)~~ of said switching node, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ said connection control module ~~(CCM1;CCM2)~~ is further adapted to communicate via a connection control interface to at least one other connection control module ~~(CCM2;CCM1)~~ of said switching node.

2. (*Currently Amended*) The connection ~~Connection~~ control module ~~(CCM1;CCM2)~~ according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ said connection control module communicates ~~(CCM1;CCM2) is further adapted to communicate~~ with at least one other service control module ~~(SC1b;SC2b)~~ of said switching node.

3. (*Currently Amended*) The connection ~~Connection~~ control module ~~(CCM1;CCM2)~~ according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ said connection control module comprises ~~(CCM1;CCM2) further includes~~ a service interface handler ~~(SIH1;SIH2)~~, said service interface handler receiving ~~(SIH1;SIH2) is adapted to receive~~ from said service control module ~~(SCM1a;SCM2a)~~ a service request message ~~(SRM1;SRM2,LRQM2),~~ to analyze ~~analyse~~ said

service request message and to perform an action, dependent on the result of the analysis of said

service request message.

4. (*Currently Amended*) The connection ~~Connection~~ control module ~~(CCM1;CCM2)~~

according to claim 3, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ in case said result of said analysis of said

service request message indicates that at least one of a predetermined type of physical device

drivers is needed for establishing a connection pertaining to a call, said action consists of

generating a physical device interface handler module ~~(PDIH1;PDIH2),~~ associated to said

predetermined type of said physical device drivers[[,]] for inclusion in said connection control

module ~~(CCM1;CCM2)~~.

5. (*Currently Amended*) The connection ~~Connection~~ control module ~~(CCM1;CCM2)~~

according to claim 4, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ said physical device interface handler module

transmits a resource request message ~~(PDIH1;PDIH2) is further adapted to transmit~~ to an

associated resource manager module ~~(RM)~~ included in said switching node, ~~a resource request~~

~~message (RRM1;RRM2),~~ said associated resource manager module selects a physical device

driver ~~(RM) being adapted to select~~ from a plurality of ~~said~~ physical device drivers of said

predetermined type and included in or coupled to ~~to~~ said switching node, ~~and~~ based upon said

resource request message ~~(RRM1;RRM2), an associated physical device driver (DD1;DD2) of~~

~~said plurality~~.

6. (*Currently Amended*) The connection ~~Connection~~ control module ~~(CCM1;CCM2)~~ according to claim 5, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ said physical device interface handler module activates ~~(PDIH1;PDIH2) is further adapted to activate~~ said associated physical device driver ~~(DD1;DD2)~~, and to confirm said operation to said service interface handler ~~(SIH1;SIH2)~~.

7. (*Currently Amended*) The connection ~~Connection~~ control module ~~(CCM1;CCM2)~~ according to claim 6, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ said service interface handler confirms ~~(SIH1;SIH2) is further adapted to confirm~~ said operation to said service control module ~~(SC1a;SC2a)~~.

8. (*Currently Amended*) The connection ~~Connection~~ control module ~~(CCM1;CCM2)~~ according to claim 3, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ in case said result of said analysis of said service request message indicates that a physical device driver of said switching node is to be removed from an existing call connection, said action consists of deleting an existing physical device interface handler module ~~(PDIH1;PDIH2)~~ associated to said physical device driver and included within said connection control module.

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9. (*Currently Amended*) The connection ~~Connection~~ control module ~~(CCM1;CCM2)~~ according to claim 3, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ in case said result of said analysis of said service request message indicates that the operation of a physical device driver of said switching node is to be modified, said action consists of initiating a state change within an existing physical device interface handler ~~(PDIH1;PDIH2)~~ associated to said physical device driver and included within said connection control module ~~(CCM1;CCM2)~~.

10. (*Currently Amended*) The connection ~~Connection~~ control module ~~(CCM1)~~ according to claim 3, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ in case said result of said analysis of said service request message indicates that said at least one other connection control module is involved, said service interface handler communicates with ~~(SIH1) is further adapted to communicate to~~ a service interface handler ~~(SIH2)~~ of said at least one other connection control module.

11. (*Currently Amended*) The connection ~~Connection~~ control module ~~(CCM1)~~ according to claim 10, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ upon communication with said service interface handler of said at least one other connection control module, said service interface handler communicates with ~~(SIH1) is further adapted to communicate to~~ a physical device interface handler referred to in said service request message and included in said connection control module.

12. (*Currently Amended*) The connection ~~Connection~~ control module ~~(CCM1)~~ according to claim 11, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ said physical device interface handler referred to in said service request message communicates ~~is further adapted to communicate~~ with a second physical device interface handler referred to in said service request message and included in said at least one other connection control module ~~(CCM2)~~.

13. (*New*) A connection control module of a switching node in a telecommunications network, said connection control module communicating with a service control module of said switching node and communicating via a connection control interface to at least one other connection control module of said switching node, said connection control module comprising a service interface handler that analyzes a service request message from said service control module and performs an action dependent on the result of the analysis of said service request message, wherein said action comprises at least one of a physical device interface handler module, deleting an existing physical device interface handler module or initiating a state change within an existing physical device interface handler.

14. (*New*) The connection control module according to claim 13, wherein in case said result of said analysis of said service request message indicates that said at least one other connection control module is involved, said service interface handler communicates with a service interface handler of said at least one other connection control module.

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15. (*New*) The connection control module according to claim 14, wherein upon communication with said service interface handler of said at least one other connection control module, said service interface handler communicates with a physical device interface handler referred to in said service request message and included in said connection control module.

16. (*New*) The connection control module according to claim 15, wherein said physical device interface handler referred to in said service request message communicates with a second physical device interface handler referred to in said service request message and included in said at least one other connection control module.